

national community by fostering and promoting patriotism and respect for our Nation, our flag, and our men and women in uniform. Their unselfish leadership helps strengthen communities and sets an example for people across our country.

As we honor America's Gold Star Mothers and observe this special day, we also pray for them and for their families, that they may find peace and reconciliation in the knowledge that their work keeps alive the noble spirit of their sons and daughters. Having lost their most precious gift—their children—they deserve no less than our eternal gratitude.

In recognition of the outstanding courage of our Gold Star Mothers, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 115 of June 23, 1936 (49 Stat. 895), has designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sunday, September 29, 1996, as Gold Star Mother's Day. I call upon all government officials to display the United States flag on government buildings on this solemn day. I additionally urge the American people to display the flag and to hold appropriate meetings in their homes, places of worship, or other suitable places, as public expression of the sympathy and the respect that our Nation holds for its Gold Star Mothers.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:39 a.m., September 30, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 1.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on Cyprus

September 27, 1996

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question. The previous submission covered progress through May 31, 1996. The current submission covers the period June 1, 1996, through July 31, 1996.

I was pleased to welcome President Clerides to the White House on June 17. His visit capped a series of personal consultations on Cyprus I have had with regional leaders, beginning with Turkish President Demirel this March. During the reporting period, I dispatched U.N. Ambassador Albright and my Cyprus emissary, Richard Beattie, to the region to explore opportunities for progress toward a comprehensive solution. Following their trip, Ambassador Albright and Mr. Beattie confirmed to me that, notwithstanding the many disagreements between the parties, the United States should stay actively engaged on Cyprus. I remain committed to doing all we can to support the parties' efforts to bring about a settlement.

Based on consultations with the U.N. force commander in Cyprus, Ambassador Albright and Mr. Beattie proposed during their trip that the military commanders on the island meet to discuss implementation of practical measures to reduce tensions along the U.N. Buffer Zone. We hope that the parties will overcome their disagreement over whom should participate in the meeting, which has prevented it from taking place. We believe the tragic events of August underscore the urgent need to move immediately to reduce the potential for violence along the Buffer Zone.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Report of the
Railroad Retirement Board**

September 27, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Railroad Retirement Board for Fiscal Year 1995, pursuant to the provisions of section 7(b)(6) of the Railroad Retirement Act and section 12(1) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 27, 1996.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Report of the
Federal Labor Relations Authority**

September 27, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 701 of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-454; 5 U.S.C. 7104(e)), I have the pleasure of transmitting to you the Seventeenth Annual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for Fiscal Year 1995.

The report includes information on the cases heard and decisions rendered by the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the General Counsel of the Authority, and the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 27, 1996.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 21

In the evening, the President attended Democratic National Committee dinners at

the Hay Adams Hotel and the Sheraton Carlton Hotel.

September 24

In the morning, the President traveled to New York City, NY. Later, he met separately with U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and President of the U.N. General Assembly Razali bin Ismail in Room GA-200 of the United Nations.

In the afternoon, the President met separately with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Saud al-Faysal, and Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeniy Primakov in the 12th floor Conference Room of the United Nations. Later, he traveled to Freehold Borough, NJ. In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President named the following individuals as recipients of the first Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring: Martha G. Absher, Howard G. Adams, Diola Bagayoko, Joaquin Bustoz, Carlos G. Gutierrez, Janet S. Herman, Susan J.S. Lasser, Melvin B. Robin, Walter S. Smith, and Richard A. Tapia.

The President named the following institutions as recipients of the first Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring: Columbia University Double Discovery Center, Dartmouth College Women in Science Project, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc., New Mexico MESA, Inc., Oregon Graduate Institute of Science & Technology Saturday Academy Program, and University of Maryland Baltimore County.

September 25

In the morning, the President traveled to Pittsburgh, PA. In the afternoon, he traveled to Philadelphia, PA.

In the evening, the President attended a Democratic National Committee dinner at the Locust Club in Philadelphia, PA. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

September 26

In the evening, the President attended a Democratic National Committee African American Leadership Council dinner in the